

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claims 1-18 are rejected.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 7 and 13 have been amended to more clearly state Applicant's invention. In particular, each of these claims have been amended to recite "a first set of select signals" to provide antecedent basis for the use of this term elsewhere in the respective claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,543,731 issued to Sigal (hereinafter "Sigal"). Applicant traverses the rejection of the aforementioned claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Specifically, Applicant respectfully submits that Sigal does not anticipate the combination of features recited in independent claims 1, 7 and 11. First, Applicant does not agree that the discussion in column 3, lines 33+ provide a basis for disclosure of the "second logic module" recited in independent claims 1, 7 and 11. Examiner states on page 2 that the second logic module is not shown, i.e., "Gate 2, not shown, but similar to Gate 1." Even if it could be assumed that Sigal provided the disclosure of a second logic module, it would necessarily be the same logic module as the Gate 1 in Figure 6 of Sigal. The logic module in Figure 6 does not comprise a first set of complementary select signals as recited in independent claims 1, 7 and 11. It is clear, therefore, that the alleged second logic module – which is not shown in Sigal – does not provide the set of complementary select signals recited in independent claims 1, 7 and 11. For this reason, the rejection of independent claims 1, 7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) should be removed and these claims should be passed to allowance. In addition dependent claims 2-6, 8-12 and 14-18 are allowable as being dependent from allowable base claims.

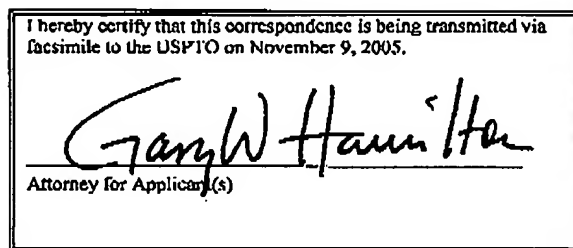
Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6, 12, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sigal. Claims 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sigal in view of Horenstein's "Microelectronic Circuits & Devices," 1990 by Prentice-Hall,

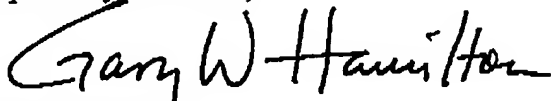
Inc. (hereinafter "Horenstein"). The Horenstein reference provided by Examiner does not supply the teaching of a second logic module having a set of complementary select signals that is missing in the Sigal reference as discussed above. Applicant, therefore, submits that the rejection of claims 6, 12, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be removed and these claims should be allowed for the reasons stated above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at 512-338-9100.



Respectfully submitted,



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